



# CITY OF SAINT PAUL OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

#### SAINT PAUL DISTRICT COUNCIL SYSTEM OVERVIEW

#### What are district councils?

There are 17 district councils in Saint Paul. Each district council is an independent nonprofit tax-exempt 501-c-3 neighborhood-based organization that receives funding from the City, as well as other sources. Such sources include private donations, foundation and corporate grants, as well as grants from other units of government. As independent organizations, district councils ensure community participation in Saint Paul's planning and decision making processes. The map on the next page shows district council boundaries and provides contact information.

## What is the mission of the community participation process?

The mission of the community participation process is to facilitate effective, informed and representative participation of neighborhoods in government and self-help initiatives and to provide a channel for communication with elected officials, City department staff, and other relevant agency representatives.

"...participation is a process, not a structure. The City has a responsibility to develop a process that will ensure that everyone has the opportunity to communicate with City government, and further that everyone is assured that they will be heard. This process cannot guarantee that there will always be agreement nor is it a substitution of one level of government for another or any other transfer of power."

- Formal definition of community participation, as adopted in 1975 by the Saint Paul City Council.

### What is the history of the district council system?

The City of Saint Paul officially established a citywide community participation process by council resolution in October 1975. Shortly afterward, district councils followed steps to recognition and were then officially designated by a City Council resolution as the district council for a specific area. Seventeen district councils were recognized, based on neighborhoods, not population.

### What are the common characteristics of district councils?

As an independent organization, each district council hires its own staff members, including an executive director and/or community organizer. District council employees are not city employees, but employees of each district council. The governing board of each district council is composed of volunteers elected primarily by residents.

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Diane Wanner, District Council Coordinator Phone: 651-266-8572

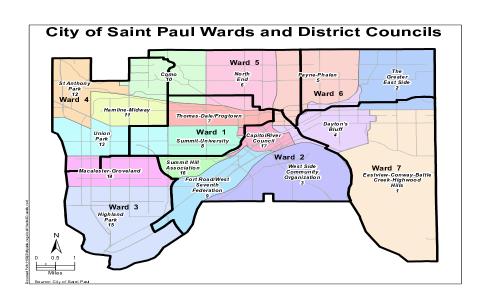
Email: Diane.Wanner@ci.stpaul.mn.us

#### What are the common characteristics of district councils (continued)?

Each district council provides advisory recommendations to City officials on physical, economic, and social development issues, as well as on citywide issues. District councils also receive funding from the City for neighborhood crime prevention programs. In addition, these community-based organizations identify neighborhood needs, initiate community programs to meet these needs, and recruit volunteers when needed for these programs.

District council funding from the City is on a formula basis, based on size and demographic information for each council. A formal city/agency agreement is required for each district council's use of City funds. The agreement includes goals and objectives, work plans, and evaluation components. City resources typically fund district council staff, office, supplies and communications. Financing is provided through local City funds and the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

### Contact your district council for more information and to get involved in *your* community!



District Council	Geographic Area	Phone (651)	Web Site	Email Address
District 1	Eastview, Conway, Battle Creek and Highwood Hills	578-7600	www.district1council.org	district1council@aol.com
District 2	Greater East Side	774-2220	www.district2council.org/	info@district2council.org
District 3	West Side	293-1708	www.wsco.org	info@wsco.org
District 4	Dayton's Bluff	772-2075	www.daytonsbluff.org	deanna@daytonsbluff.org
District 5	Payne Phalen	774-5234	www.paynephalen.org	d5-director@visi.com
District 6	North End	488-4485	www.district6stpaul.org	district6ed@dist6pc.org
District 7	Frogtown/Thomas Dale	789-7480	www.frogtownmn.org	caty@frogtownmn.org
District 8	Summit University	228-1855	www.Summit-U.com	info@summit-u.com
District 9	West Seventh/Fort Road Federation	298-5599	www.fortroadfederation.org	fortroadfed@fortroadfederation.org
District 10	Como	644-3889	www.district10comopark.org	district10@district10comopark.org
District 11	Hamline Midway	494-7682	www.hamlinemidway.org	michaeljon@hamlinemidway.org
District 12	St. Anthony Park	649-5992	www.sapcc.org	sapcc@sapcc.org
District 13	Union Park (Lexington-Hamline, Hamline-Snelling and Merriam Park)	645-6887	www.unionparkdc.org	info@unionparkdc.org
District 14	Macalester Groveland	695-4000	www.macgrove.org	mgcc@macgrove.org
District 15	Highland Park	695-4005	www.highlanddistrictcouncil.org	hdc@visi.com
District 16	Summit Hill	222-1222	www.summithillassociation.org	summithill@visi.com
District 17	Downtown	221-0488	www.capitolrivercouncil.org	office@capitolrivercouncil.org